

Times-Dispatch

DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY.

Business Office 116 E. Main Street,
Washington Bureau 116-7 Broadway Street,
Manchester Bureau 116-7 Broadway Street,
Petersburg Bureau 40 N. Ryancourt Street,
Lynchburg Bureau 215 Eighth St.

BY MAIL. One Six Three One
DAILY. Year. \$10.00. Mo. \$1.00. 35
SUNDAY. Year. \$5.00. Mo. \$1.00. 35
Daily without Sunday 4.00 2.00 1.00 35
Sunday edition only. 2.00 1.00 50 25
Weekly (Wednesday). 1.00 .50 .25 ..

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service
in Richmond (and suburbs), Manchester
and Petersburg—

One Week. One Year.
Daily with Sunday 14 cents \$6.50
Daily without Sunday 10 cents 4.50
Sunday only 5 cents 2.50
(Yearly subscriptions payable in advance.)
Entered January 21, 1902, at Richmond,
Va., as second-class matter, under act of
Congress of March 3, 1879.

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Times-Dispatch by telephone will ask cen-
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1907.

If you have no faith in a bene-
dict power above you, but see
only an adamantine fate colling
its folds about nature and man,
then reflect that the best use of
fate is to teach us courage.—Emerson.

A WORD OF CHER.

The recent panic in New York dif-
fered from the panic of 1873 in that it
was checked before there was any
smash-up, except in the stock market;
while in the former year the Jay Cooke
failure caused a crash, and the panic
was permitted to run its course. The
same is largely true of the panic of
1894, which was precipitated by the
failure of Grant & Ward. That failure
was followed in quick succession by
the collapse of the Metropolitan Bank
and other financial institutions, and
the panic then began until 1895. From
that time on there was gradual recov-
ery, and the country enjoyed a season
of prosperity. This was interrupted
somewhat by money stringency in 1897,
which developed into a currency famine
in 1898, when the banks all over the
country, with few exceptions, were com-
pelled to issue clearing house certifi-
cates or certified checks. In 1893 a full
season set in, and continued for several
years, but there was a direct cause for
it, which was not hard to trace. The
currency had been inflated by the forced
purchase of silver bullion by the United
States Treasury, under the Sherman
act. Foreign investments were with-
drawn, gold was hoarded, and com-
merce and industry were greatly re-
tarded. There was a general lack of
confidence, and the farmers, whose
property was heavily mortgaged, were
barely able, in many instances, to make
a support. In the latter part of 1894
Congress repealed the silver-purchas-
ing act, but the mischief had already
been done, and the free silver agita-
tion, which immediately began and did
not spend its force until after the
election of 1896, aggravated the situa-
tion. The country was slow to re-
cover from the effects.

But the situation now is far different.
There is plenty of gold, and the supply
is constantly increasing. There is no
distrust at home or abroad as to our
monetary system. The government's
vaults are abundantly supplied with
the yellow metal, and there is no ques-
tion about the value of a dollar. The
banks are strong. The railroads have
greatly improved their physical condi-
tion and increased their equipment.
This has been done, too, in large part
out of current earnings. The industrial
and commercial business of the coun-
try is prosperous, and the farmers are
better off than ever before in the his-
tory of the nation. And they have just
harvested another fine crop. The gen-
eral wealth of the country has enor-
mously increased, and we are better
than ever prepared to stand a storm.
Europeans think that we have over-
traded, but there is no distrust abroad,
if we may judge by the expressions of
the foreign newspapers, which are ad-
vising their readers that this is the
chance of a lifetime to purchase Ameri-
can securities at bargain prices. They
have purchased in large blocks, and
as a consequence of our trade balance
abroad millions of gold are now being
imported.

There must be some recession in
business. The steady decline in the
price of securities has long portended
it, as The Times-Dispatch has in duty
more than once pointed out. But we do
not believe that it will go very far, or
that there will be a long period of
business depression. The fundamental
conditions are too strong to warrant
it. A moderate recession is desirable,
for it will relieve the strain on our
financial resources and give the coun-
try a chance to take its breath before
facing another storm.

There are plenty of cakes and ale
for our forthcoming Thanksgiving fes-
tival. Let us be of good cheer.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.
A correspondent writing from Nor-
ton, Va., puts the following questions
to The Times-Dispatch:

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—I seek a little enlightenment on
the subject of your opposition to Mr.
Bryan, which I trust you will be kind
enough to give.

Aside from Mr. Bryan's govern-
ment ownership and referendum ideas,
which he has given us to understand
will not figure in next year's campaign
as issues, what are your chief objec-
tions to him?

2. If Mr. Bryan is the choice of the
Democratic masses for President, which
fact you concede, what Democratic
candidate could you possibly elect?
Why?

3. Do you think Mr. Bryan's "personal

popularity" is a good reason why he
cannot be elected President? Meaning
the antagonism of the corporations.
4. Of the two men—Bryan and Roose-
velt—which do you consider the more
radical, and of the two, which do you
prefer for President?

5. What would you consider a "sound"
Democratic platform of platform on
which, as you say, Mr. Bryan would
receive the support of The Times-Dis-
patch?

These questions are asked in a
vituperative spirit, but only to lead
to the political attitude of The Times-
Dispatch, which I do not think has been
made exactly plain.

VOTER.
Norton, Va.
Our correspondent's questions are
asked for the purpose of gaining in-
formation, and not in a querulous
spirit, we take pleasure in answering
them:

1. The Times-Dispatch does not ob-
ject to Mr. Bryan as a man. Its ob-
jection to him as a candidate is that he
is radical and uncertain. He has many
theories which seem to us to be more
Socialistic than Democratic, and we
never know what new theory he is
going to spring upon the party and
the nation.

2. While Mr. Bryan is the choice of
the masses, he is by no means the
unanimous choice of the Democratic
party. He has many opponents within
the party who will not vote for him if
nominated. We think that the candi-
date should be a Democrat who can
poll the full party strength, together
with the vote of the so-called indepen-
dents, who vote with the party
when the nominee suits them. Who
that man is we do not know.

3. Mr. Bryan's opposition to trusts is
not sufficient of itself to defeat him.
But there are many honest men of
affairs who would not vote for him
because they fear that he would not
make a safe President.

4. We think that Mr. Roosevelt is
more radical than Mr. Bryan, and of
the two we should prefer Mr. Bryan,
because he is a Democrat.

5. Any that should be built upon
Democratic fundamentals, as expressed
in the platform of 1892 or that of
1904.

Chancellor Day, of the University
of Syracuse, says that the anti-trust
law was promulgated by a man abso-
lutely without economic instinct,
knowledge, genius or experience, who
threw at a venture a stick of dynam-
ite, the nature of which he did not
know, into the crowded industries of
an age which he could not see. The
reason that this law has lasted so
long, he adds, is because "with men
of the broad statesmanship of Har-
rison, Cleveland and McKinley it was
not permitted to do any serious harm."

Whether or not it was broad states-
manship on the part of Harrison,
Cleveland and McKinley not to en-
force the law is a matter of opinion;
but the fact is, as The Times-Dis-
patch has pointed out more than once,
it was not enforced in the administra-
tions of those Presidents, nor in the
first administration of President
Roosevelt. It had become a dead-
letter, and was so treated, until Presi-
dent Roosevelt began to prosecute
corporations that were accused of
violating it.

Down in Houston (Tex.) they have
the habit of spelling things backward
whenever they want to be frightfully
facetious. They hold a nice little car-
nival down there every year (almost
approximating in size and importance
to a church oyster-social here in Rich-
mond), and instead of calling it the
Houston Carnival they wittily term it
the No-Tsu-Oh Carnival. Then, the
last week in October, they hoist a sign
on the front of the drug-and-dry-goods
emporium reading, "No-Tsu-Oh Next
Week," or words to that effect, and all
the inhabitants gather on Main Street
and look at it and titter and snigger.

"It is a time-worn axiom," so says
the Nashville American, "that a stream
cannot gather gifts of thorns nor grapes
of thistles." This axiom, fortunately,
is time-worn not so much through use
as from a studious neglect.

The scallop cocktail, says the Boston
Globe, "is the only known cocktail
served hot." Still, the scallop cocktail
can hardly hope to rank with the
Fairbanks article, which stays hot for
months after it has been put down.

Pig-iron is also down in price, notes
the Washington Herald. However, no-
body eats pig-iron nowadays, except,
maybe, an occasional end-seat hog,
here and there.

Furthermore, the steam radiators of
Richmond are eleven times as steamy
as those of Microbey Manhattan,
and forty-three times as radiatory as
those of Hoop-em-up Houston.

If old Maxine yet lives, she will not
fail to bear in mind the singular ad-
vantages of Halloween from an in-
voluntarily celibate point of view.

Five hundred and thirteen head of
game have been bagged around Ban-
gor, Me., this season, not counting
guides.

Why should a woman want to learn
to type a typewriter when the lady-
champion can talk only 57 words a
minute that way?

However, cleanliness is sometimes
pretty close to the other thing. So far,
Boston has lost 21,000 towels at her
public baths this year.

Edison says that he can build a nice,
comfortable cement house for \$1,000,
and we hereby authorize him to go
ahead whenever ready.

Let up on the Japs, Captain Hobson.
They are going to have an exposition
over there in a few years, anyway.

"It is expensive to be rich," sighs Mrs.
Stuyvesant Fish. Yes, indeed. It is
also quite expensive not to be.

Stock Exchange seats may drop a
bit in price after this. However, you
can't eat them, either.

Thanksgiving is less than a month
away, as every thoughtful turkey has
doubtless observed to his wife.

No. Mr. Wellman, that new route to
the North Pole is not yet open for
automobiles.

Holding down a box-office job at an
aeronautic park must also be a lone-
some kind of business.

Still, Virginia is far better able than
most States to withstand a cowardly
blow beneath her pie-belt.

Rhymes for To-Day.

"RHYMES For To-Day!" Still I
obey
That headline's call to round-
elay.
Long years I've looked it face to face,
Long years, it's stared at my grimace
And spurred my brain to notions gay.
A muse's life's not always May:
Grim moments find her, dour and
gray.
When she must dig, to fill some space,
"Rhymes For To-Day."

But still, whatever press-bards say,
They do their work and get their pay—
And there's one critic in calf office—
Do not the lexicons, in grace,
Bestrew in plenty o'er my way,
Rhymes for "to-day?"

H. S. H.

MERELY J. KING.

An Eye-Opener.
Guest (in bed): "I am so sleepy that I
cannot open my eyes."
Host (who has just called him):
"Shall I bring you your bill, sir?"—Mes-
senger Blatter.

A Matter of Taste.
Ella: "She is a decided blonde, isn't
she?"
Tina: "Yes, but she only decided re-
cently."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Worse, If Anything.
Cookley: "People looking badly. What's
the matter with him?"
Joakley: "Lungs."
Cookley: "You don't say? Weak, eh?"
Joakley: "No, strong; there's a new
baby at his house that keeps him awake
nights."—Philadelphia Press.

A Well-Informed Woman.
A woman who is trying to "elimb" into
Washington society attended a recent recep-
tion at the house of Mrs. Taft. The crowd
was so great that guests were hurried along
the line of the receiving party with merely
a handshake with the wife of the Secre-
tary of War.

The "climber" with determination written
on her face, finally pushed her way up to
her hostess and paused long enough to say:
"How do you do, Mrs. Taft," adding, with
a very impressive manner, "I've heard of
your husband."—Lippincott's Magazine.

Expert Accountant Demanded.

The guest looked up angrily.
"Waiter, be sharply said, 'didn't you
hear me ask you to bring my check?'"
"Yes, sir, in a moment, sir," the waiter
meekly replied.

"The cashier is flustering it out, sir."
"Flustering it out? Why, all I've had was
a plate of hash."
The waiter nodded.

"Yes, sir, but there was seven kinds of
meat, sir. And of American wine, sir, and
I've paid in price this morning, sir, and so
the cashier is trying to equalize the cost
of your hash, sir. There, here, here, here,
now, sir."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Trouble for the Editor.

"I can't keep the visitors from coming
up," said the editor. "When I say you're
out they don't believe me. When I say
they must see you, they say, 'Just tell them
that what they all say. I don't care if
you check them, but I must have quietness.'"

That afternoon there came a letter
from a lady with hard features and an acid
expression. She wanted to see the editor,
and the boy assured her that it was impossi-
ble. "But I must see him," she protested.
"I'm his wife?"

"That's what they all say," replied the
boy. That is why he found himself on the
floor, with the lady sitting on his neck and
smacking his head with a ruler, and that is
why there is a new boy wanted there.

Answers.

SPEAKING OF OLD VIRGINIA.

WITH Thanksgiving more than a month
away, Grand Old Texas already has
enough blessings to exhaust the
gratitude of a dozen States like Virginia—
Houston Post.

The Virginians who are raising a ruckus
because of the charge that General Wash-
ington stole his office from the office
plain what attitude the general occupied
toward the Boston tea tax.—Houston Post.

A Virginia prophet says the Jamestown
Exposition will encounter fire, flood and
earthquake on November 25th. With a
spectacular program, the exposition man-
agement is bound to pull through.—Atlanta
Constitution.

The people of a little Virginia town are
very non-plussed over finding a weasel in
one of their parlors. Being very fond of
foam, maybe the weasel was attracted to
that part of the house by the "foaming" go-
ing on the Sunday night before.—Nashville
Tennessean.

Although Judge Blackstone, of Virginia,
fell asleep while presiding in court, no Vir-
ginian has made the obnoxious comment
about justice and blindness.—Charleston News and
Courier.

Doctor Hoge's Proverb—A Little History.

Editor Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Your memory serves you right
as to the local origin of the proverb
"That which is morally wrong can
never be politically right." The cir-
cumstance was thus: In the gubernat-
orial campaign of 1895, at a time when
dates being Major John W. Daniel for
the "Conservatives," and Colonel Wil-
liam E. Cameron for the "Readjusters,"
and the States-dot question being the
paramount issue—Rev. Dr. Moses D.
Hoge, at a gathering of Conservatives
at Richmond, made use of the senti-
ment, as I have here quoted it.

I distinctly remember that on the day
following this deliverance the Rich-
mond Whig, the Readjusters organ,
excitedly quoted the words of the
C. Elam, the editor of the Whig, was
a friend and countryman of mine, and
I wrote to him inquiring why he so
strongly objected to the sentiment
when his party's claims were in the Mem-
ory thereof. Whereupon, the
Whig, in a very strong article, main-

taind that it was not the sentiment
which was the issue, but the use in the
address clearly reflected upon the
moral position of the Readjusters as
to the States-dot question, which they
thought especially out of place in a
minister of the gospel. Happily, the
honest masses on both sides of the old
State dot issue can now concede to
each other entire sincerity of motive
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in the genuine fame in the States-dot
for the lives of her countrymen, Daniel
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W. M. BICKERS.
Richmond, Va., Oct. 28, 1907.

Confederate Choir.

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